CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method comprising:

receiving, by an application executed by an operating system, a plurality of operating

parameters having values describing a plurality of resources of a client device;

changing determining a value representing a performance measure of the client device

assigned to a usage variable based at least in part on a combination of the plurality

of operating parameter values describing the plurality of the operating parameters

resources of the client device; and

assigning the value representing the performance measure to a usage variable; and

correlating by the application a resource usage level of the application with the usage

variable, the correlating comprising the application modifying its own execution

based at least in part on [[the]] a change to the value assigned to the usage

variable.

2. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein correlating by the application the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application suspending one or more operations when the value assigned to the usage variable exceeds a threshold.

3. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein correlating by the application the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application

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performing an activity affecting a usage variable proximate to a time that the value assigned to the usage variable indicates an existing activity.

4. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein correlating by the application the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application adjusting a rate of operation based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein correlating by an application the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application adjusting a sequence of operations based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein correlating by the application the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application adjusting an active feature based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

7. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the client device comprises a client processor and a client memory storage device.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises monitoring at least one of the plurality of the operating parameters.

9. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising monitoring a period of inactivity of the client device.

10. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving at least one of the plurality of operating parameters during an initial load of the client processor.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving at least one of the plurality of operating parameters during a predetermined time interval.

12. (Previously presented) The method of claim 11, wherein the plurality of operating parameters comprise a client processor load.

13. (Canceled)

14. (Canceled)

15. (Previously presented) The method of claim 7, further comprising writing to a computer readable medium of the client memory storage device.

16. (Previously presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the plurality of operating parameters comprise a first parameter and a second parameter, the first parameter comprising a speed of the client processor and the second parameter comprising a capacity of the client memory storage device.

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17. (Currently Amended) A computer readable storage medium comprising instructions, that, when executed, cause an application to perform the steps of:

receiving, by an application executed by an operating system, a plurality of operating

parameters having values describing a plurality of resources of a client device;

~~changing~~ determining a value representing a performance measure of the client

device ~~assigned to a usage variable~~ based at least in part on a combination of

the plurality of operating parameter values describing the plurality of

~~operating parameters~~ resources of the client device;

assigning the value representing the performance measure to a usage variable; and

correlating by the application a resource usage level of the application with the usage

variable, the correlating comprising the application modifying its own

execution based at least in part on [[the]] a change to the value assigned to the

usage variable.

18. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein correlating the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application suspending one or more operations when the value assigned to the usage variable exceeds a threshold.

19. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein correlating the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application performing an activity affecting a usage variable proximate to a time that the value assigned to the usage variable indicates an existing activity.

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20. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein correlating the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application adjusting a rate of operation based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

21. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein correlating the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application adjusting a sequence of operations based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

22. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein correlating the resource usage level of the application with the usage variable comprises the application adjusting an active feature based at least in part on the value assigned to the usage variable.

23. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein the client device comprises a client processor and a client memory storage device.

24. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 17, further comprising instructions, that, when executed, cause the application to perform the step of monitoring a period of inactivity of the client device.

25. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving at least one of the plurality of operating parameters during an initial load of the client processor.

26. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises receiving the client processor during a predetermined time interval.

27. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 26, wherein the plurality of operating parameters comprise a client processor load.

28. (Canceled)

29. (Canceled)

30. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 23, further comprising instructions, that, when executed, cause the application to perform the step of writing to a computer readable medium of the client memory storage device.

31. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 25, wherein the plurality of operating parameters comprise a first parameter and a second parameter, the first parameter comprising a speed of the client processor and the second parameter comprising a capacity of the client memory storage device.

32. (Previously presented) The computer readable medium of claim 30, wherein receiving the plurality of operating parameters comprises monitoring at least one of the plurality of operating parameters.

33. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the usage variable is a quantitative performance measure of the client device.

34. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the usage variable is a qualitative performance measure of the client device.

35. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application throttling back its usage of the client device.

36. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application dynamically modifies its own execution based on dynamic changes to the value assigned to the usage variable.

37. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application pausing between execution of resource-intensive calculations.

38. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a resource used by the application is memory and wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application dynamically scaling back its memory usage based on dynamic changes to the value assigned to the usage variable.

39. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein a resource used by the application is network bandwidth and wherein the application modifying its own execution comprises the application throttling-back usage of network bandwidth based on dynamic changes to the value assigned to the usage variable.

40. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the correlating further comprises:

examining a table having a column representing the usage variable and a column

     representing the resource usage level of the application and rows specifying

     values of the usage variable and resource usage levels;

identifying a row of the table matching the value assigned to the usage variable; and

modifying the execution of the application to use a level of resources specified by the

     identified row.

41. (Previously presented) The method of claim 1, wherein there are a plurality of usage variables and wherein the correlating comprises the application modifying its own execution based at least in part on changes to values assigned to the plurality of usage variables.